

Anticipated Questions

March 6, 2018

ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE

- Your Senior Advisor, Ken Eudy, recently gave an interview with WRAL and your office released documents members of the General Assembly and the media have requested. Why is your office selectively giving information to the certain outlets?

SIEMENS

- Last year, Siemens announced that it is restructuring and will begin layoffs across the Globe. Have you heard anything from them or are doing anything to keep jobs in Charlotte?
 - SUGGESTED RESPONSE: I am here visiting Siemens in Charlotte today because of their strong apprenticeship program and collaboration with partners like Central Piedmont Community College. It is my goal that Siemens remains a strong presence in our state and continues to develop North Carolina's workforce.

REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM

- You've sent a letter calling for Rev. Graham to replace Charles Aycock in the U.S. Capitol. What did he mean to you?

SAFETY IN PRISONS/DPS

- WBTV recently reported on an attack in Lanesboro against two corrections officers, and we have made several requests for an interview with Secretary Hooks. What steps is your office taking to make our prisons safer for employees?
 - Our prisons must be made safer and I've directed state public safety officials to look at all available options for improving prison safety. Already they've put a number of reforms in place, brought in the National Institute of Corrections for an independent review, improving hiring and training for correctional officers, and clamping down on contraband in prisons.
- What about using National Guard members as prison guards?
 - Nothing is off the table to improve prison safety. The head of the NC National Guard is a key part of the state's public safety leadership and is a part of ongoing discussions on prison safety.

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GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- What steps do you think need to be taken to make our schools safer from gun violence?
 - We must do more to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and those who are dangerously mentally ill. I'm reviewing options for how to best prevent gun violence and protect schools and communities in North Carolina, including stronger background checks and purchasing protocols and gun violence protective orders.

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BBQ

- Do you have any response to the website Munchie claiming that the best BBQ is in Brooklyn?

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- "Why can't you cancel the contract?"
 - We need sought an in-depth analysis of the contract to have for a full understanding of the consequences of any changes to the contract. Now a local advisory group is reviewing that analysis and giving input on options identified in the report.
 - NCDOT created the advisory group with representatives from cities, counties and business groups in the area. The group meets next March 14 and March 27. [Note: meetings are open to the public and livestreamed.] Once that analysis is complete, the Secretary will review and make a recommendation on next steps.
 - It is important that we do this right, not fast.
- Any questions about the review:
Suggested response: NCDOT has created a local advisory group at the request of locals. This group includes representatives from cities, counties and business groups in the area who will provide advice and input on the options identified in the report.

